

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: "Brian K. Short" <ke7gh@primenet.com>
Subject: [19442] **Over 2700 Links**
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19970511024530.006cbaf4@mailhost.primenet.com>

Just added a collection of ~2740 amateur radio WWW links:
<http://www.qsl.net/k7on/index24.htm>

Or, "OTHER Internet Resources" from the main page:
<http://www.qsl.net/k7on>

Please copy them, use them, etc...

73, Brian

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: n4so@juno.com (charles k brown)
Subject: [19448] 38 Special contacts?
Message-ID: <19970511.112048.4431.15.n4so@juno.com>

For 38 Special contacts -
10.116 today, best if we set up a specific time.

Ken Brown, N4SO
QTH nr Mobile, AL
qrp-1 #622
n4so@juno.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: Pete Rossi <wa3nna@resuba.com>
Subject: [19457] 80 METER BEACON RESULTS *****
Message-ID: <199705112257.SAA30589@resuba.com>

Here is the summary report for the 80 meter QRP test beacon which ran over
the weekend of March 3-4, 1997

BEACON DESCRIPTION =====

This beacon test made use of the same automatic power sequencer used in the

previous beacon sessions. This sequencer permits the transmitter to be set at up to 6 different power levels. Custom software which drives it simply does the following:

```
DO FOREVER
  READ THE TIME OF DAY
  SELECT AND SET THE TX POWER LEVEL (based on minutes past the hour)
  CONSTRUCT AND SEND CW MESSAGE FOR THE SELECTED POWER LEVEL
END
```

That's about all there is to it. The power controller has 5 relays which select one of 5 pots used to set 5 different power levels. The 6th power level is produced with all 5 relays off (uses internal TX pot). Very "low tech" but effective.

The controlling computer is a home-built Motorola 6800 system that I designed and built back in 1979 (pre-PC days). The software is written in 6800 assembly language. It includes provisions for keying the transmitter at each power level for calibration, setting the power level and code word messages for each level, and setting the CW sending speed.

COMMENTS

=====

QRN levels were really bad on Saturday, Period! Not many reports received and even fewer reporting that they could actually hear anything. Weather radar map showed a line of scattered thunderstorms along the entire east coast ... but the storms moved through and things quieted down a bit on Sunday and the bulk of the reports came in. Maximum distances were down a bit from previous 80 meter beacons, probably due to a mixture of the lower power levels and increased noise. Even with fewer distant reports of the 50 microwatt beacon, there were almost as many reports as there were of the 100 microwatt beacon back in February.. and the lower power level helped push up the the miles-per-watt numbers for these closer station to record levels. Interesting to note that many of the "regulars" who copied 100 microwatts back in February could not quite pull the 50 microwatt signal through the noise this time. Not quite sure what that means.

The solar numbers looked about the same as they had been running for the past several months. I don't think this has much effect on 80 meters.

All in all I received reports from 30 stations who copied at least one codeword, of which 2 of these reports were from QSL cards. We have a few

listeners that are almost regulars (who are not on QRP-L) who apparently just happen to stumble into the beacon .. so they send QSL card reports. In particular W1ZPB and KB1AVN have sent cards for this and from past beacons.

The 30 reports came from 13 states and VE3

CT KY MA MD MO NC NH NY OH PA SC TX VA VE3

North Carolina leads the list with 5 reports followed by 4 from Maryland. The rest generally had 1 or 2.. many with 2. Ray, W5XE in El Paso TX was the most distant report at 1819 miles.

Once again there was a wide representation of rigs and antennas. I have listed some of them in the report.

I would like to come up with an orderly way to report more detailed station information but if there are a decent volume of reports, it is difficult to present this information in a clear that is easy to read, and it quickly gets out of hand.

I keep all of the e-mail received for each beacon in separate mail folders and if anyone ever wants to review all of the reports in detail, I can forward a copy of the complete e-mail folder to anyone who is interested in reading all the details.

CERTIFICATES and QSL CARDS

=====

Certificates confirming reception of your lowest power level codeword received will be available again. This time, I will be printing the certificates myself as Jerry, W4UK will be unavailable, however he has sent me all of the materials and instructions needed so they should match the ones from previous beacons. Jerry should be able to resume his much appreciated assistance for the fall session.

Reminder: Anyone who either requested a certificate from a previous beacon and never received it, or who did not request one but would like one now, just drop me some e-mail and we can print one for you. Just send your name/call and the date of the beacon.

FUTURE BEACONS

=====

I still want to do a full-weekend 20 meter beacon later in May, however

my work schedule is making it look more and more unlikely. The only weekend that really has any possibilities is next weekend -- the weekend of the Dayton hamfest -- which I don't think would be a very good weekend for a beacon.

Most likely, I will have to maintain a ready holding pattern and it will go on the the first weekend that becomes free .. which might not be until early mid-June, and even that is uncertain right now. I will try to post any future beacon announcements here on QRP-L at least 5-7 days in advance.

And now the report details...

=====

WA3NNA/B 80 METER QRP BEACON SUMMARY REPORT

0000z Saturday May 3 - 2400z Sunday May 4 1997

May 3 : Solar flux 71 A-index 17
May 4 : Solar flux 71 A-index 10

3557 KHz

16 Northwood Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073

15 miles west of Philadelphia
FM29hx

Lat. 39 59 6 N
Long. 75 22 46 W
Elev. 415' ASL

Newtown Square coordinates from QRP-L (used in all calculations below)
(I am aprox 1 mile east of this location)

Lat. 39 59 12 N
Long. 75 24 05 W

Transmitter power: The transmitter power was controlled automatically;
set at 5 different levels; 2 minutes at each level,
(4 minutes at 50 uW) according to the following
schedule. A different codeword was sent at each

power level. Power output levels were set using
TEK 453 scope and 50 ohm dummy load. Power levels
10mW thru 1 watt were also checked with OHR WM-1
watt meter and a 50 ohm dummy load.

----- minutes past hour -----					power	-reference level-	
						(100W)	(1W)
:00-02	:12-14	:24-26	:36-38	:48-50	1 W	-20 dB	0 dB
:02-04	:14-16	:26-28	:38-40	:50-52	100 mW	-30 dB	-10 dB
:04-06	:16-18	:28-30	:40-42	:52-54	10 mW	-40 dB	-20 dB
:06-08	:18-20	:30-32	:42-44	:54-56	1 mW	-50 dB	-30 dB
:08-12	:20-24	:32-36	:44-48	:56-60	50 uW	-63 dB	-43 dB

TX antenna : Full size 80 meter inverted-vee, coax fed,
center @ 65' running east/west

Message Format: VVV VVV <power> <4 letter codeword> DE WA3NNA/B QRP

The codeword was repeated 2 times at the 50 microwatt
power level.

I have listed the stations copying the codeword grouped at each power level
and then listed in order of miles/watt.

Congratulations to the following who successfully copied the codeword "TAIL"
at 50 *MICRO*watts! Special congratulations to Jim KG2H for his whopping
4.7 MILLION miles/watt report. All of the reports at this level are truly
amazing, especially considering the QRN levels for this time of year.

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
KG2H	Jim Polezczak	Gansevoort NY	MAY 04 2321	239	4,780,000
K2SJB	Dave Slade	Ithica NY	MAY 04 1200	179	3,580,000
N1QQV	Ken Freedman	Madison CT	MAY 04 1009	172	3,440,000
KC1FB	Jim Francoeur	Norwalk CT	MAY 03 1532	130	2,600,000
W2KK	Dick Lodwig	Gathersburg MD	MAY 04 1312	112	2,240,000
K4CGY	Jim Owen	Mt Airy MD	MAY 04 1124	102	2,040,000
K7SZ	Rich Arland	Wilkes-Barre PA	MAY 03 0423	91	1,820,000
N3JLY	Chris Smolinski	Westminster MD	MAY 04 2020	89	1,780,000
W3TS	Mike Michael	Halifax PA	MAY 04 2259	87	1,740,000
K3PH	Bob Schreibmaier	Kresgeville PA	MAY 03 1947	63	1,260,000

--- comments (in no particular order) ---

KG2H - The 50 uw signal just popped out of the noise level long enough to get the word RST 119 with lots of QSB and QRN.
Rig: Kenwood TS 690 Antenna: Gap Vertical

K2SJB - rig Emtech 8020/ 80 mtr version w/audio filter

KC1FB - Started listening about 15:25 UTC, copied what I think was "PORT" at 1 mW, but couldn't even hear 50 uW with all the QRN. So, I went to work on finishing my Emtech 80Meter xcvr with the beacon in the background. About 19:15 I thought I heard a very weak 5! I went over to the rig and listened for the the next round and think I copied it at 19:35 and 20:09 very very weak...so I hope I didn't imagine it.....been sorta almost there even up to now at 22:00 UTC.

W2KK - No discernable deflection on S-Meter above S3 background noise
ICOM IC-706 transceiver with 400 Hz CW filter Autek QF-1A audio filter
set at approximately 50 Hz bandwidth 80 Meter inverted V antenna;
apex @ 65 feet running E-W; fed with 450 ohm ladder line.

N3JLY - Hope I got those right, my code isn't that great (haven't been on the air for a few years now). That's amazing, HF propagation with 50 microwatts. I have an old Heathkit QRP rig gathering dust, this may have single handedly bitten me with the QRP bug! I think I'll dig it out and give it a try!
I'm using an Icom R71A receiver with a dipole cut for 3.3 MHz (90 meter broadcast band). This was even with the computer on, generating some QRM.

K7SZ - RIG: Yaesu FT-301S ANT: 80 mtr Zepp
I am located in the city of Wilkes-Barre, PA and subject to severe noise levels, especially on 80 meters. The noise was running about an S-2 to 3 early this morning (actually last nite) with peaks to S-5. While I doubt that this is any kind of a world record, it certainly is an accomplishment for this operator.

K4CGY - Rig is TenTec Corsair II. Antenna 75M inverted V with center about 35' and ends 8' running about SE-NW, pretty much broadside to you.
With one exception I could hear the 50uw level just about anytime but could not get the code word due to QRN.

W3TS - The receivers used were my Digital Argosy 2 with 8 pole ssb filter and

500 hz 8 pole crystal filter and built in audio filter. I used the Argosy 2 for most of the listening tests, or my OMNI-6 with all filters but no DSP. Antenna was my 60 foot high 80M inverted vee.

K3PH - Equipment consists of an IC-765 and a dipole at about 50 feet.

The following successfully copied the 1 milliwatt codeword "PORT"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
KS4DU	Jim Kornacki	Jackson SC	MAY 04 0313	580	580,000
KF4AR	Rick Robinson	Charlotte NC	MAY 04 2301	443	443,000
VE3VA	Jeff Knight	Toronto ON	MAY 04 0700	338	338,000
WA1QVM	Joel Malman	Concord MA	MAY 04 1154	271	271,000
W1ZPB	Walton Congdon	Northfield MA	MAY 04 2330	242	242,000
K4MKX	Ted Beach	Arlington VA	MAY 04 1115	119	119,000
K3TKS	Danny Gringell	Silver Spring MD	MAY 04 0431	106	106,000

Honorable mention to Paul AA4XX and Frank N4EKP who both copied the code word as "FORT". Close, but not quite..

The following successfully copied the 10 milliwatt codeword "BEER"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
N4EKP	Frank Styron	Cary NC	MAY 04 2300	343	34,300
AA4XX	Paul Straud	Raleigh NC	MAY 04 2342	340	34,000
N3GO	Gary O'Neil	Raleigh NC	MAY 04 0329	340	34,000
KB1AVN	Jonathan Hall	Gilmanton NH	MAY 04 2341	314	31,400
WB2VUO	Keith Hibbert	Bergen NY	MAY 03 0205	251	25,100

The following successfully copied the 100 milliwatt codeword "BOAT"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
KB8USZ	Bill Ruth	Overlin OH	MAY 04 0216	368	3,680
KB8WEV	Lee Lumpkin	Oberlin OH	MAY 04 0239	368	3,680
VE3GAM	Al McRorie	London ON	MAY 04 0526	360	3,600
WB50AU	John Brewer	Clayton NC	MAY 04 1250	353	3,530

The following successfully copied the 1 watt codeword "KING"

CALL	NAME	LOCATION	DATE/TIME	MILES	MILES/WATT
W5XE	Ray Colbert	El Paso TX	MAY 04 0613	1819	1,819
KR0I	Ed MacDonald	Independence MO	MAY 04 0438	1012	1,012
W4UK	Jerry Flanders	North Augusta SC	MAY 04 0001	574	574
AE4VQ	Scott Riley	Lexington KY	MAY 04 2312	506	506

Please forgive me if I missed anyone.. or at a particular level.. or otherwise messed up. Again, thanks to all (most) of you who followed my suggested reporting format. It sure made things easier. Please send me any corrections.

Send me your suggestions for future beacons.

Stay tuned to QRP-L for future announcements.

- - - - -

Until next time, 73 and happy listening!

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
wa3nna@pete.resuba.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: "Jim (AL7FS) and Nancy (KL7NY) Larsen" <larsennc@alaska.net>
Subject: [19453] AL7FS Propagation Observation
Message-ID: <33762A90.441D@alaska.net>

A few days ago someone posted the information on the 14.100 beacons. I decided to listen in a bit.

Today at 2000Z I can copy 4U1UN down to 1 watt and hear the tone at .1 watt. VE8AT is S7 and copiable to .1 watts no problem. W6WX can be heard down to .1 watt but is significantly lower than AT.

So, care to guess how many signals I hear around 14.060?.....

None! What does that say? I am not sure but it may be an antenna pointing thing. West point east, central points east or west, east

points west or south west. Seems I should be able to work almost anyone if the antennas are lined up when I hear the beacons this well....or should I? Might not be any hams on the air.

73,

Jim

--

Jim Larsen

Acupressure Anchorage

AL7FS ex-WA0LPK / KL7

Anchorage, Alaska

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: Scott Thomas <n1st@ntplx.net>

Subject: [19436] Computer Help Needed

Message-ID: <01BC5D87.251DA840@pc6651.hsd.utc.com>

My appologies for this non-QRP related message. My windows subdirector = on my Win 95 sytem was wiped out today. I have the original CD to = reinstall it, but my CD rom drive is not recognized. I have no driver = disk for it. It's a no-name oem brand called a FX400. The driver file = referred to in the manual is named: mtmcdai.sys.

If anyone should have this file or a generic IDE cd rom driver file that = they can e-mail me, it would be very helpful. So would any other = advice.

Thanks,

Scott, N1ST

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: k7sz@juno.com (Richard H. Arland)

Subject: [19441] FS: Wilderness Sierra + 9 Modules

Message-ID: <19970510.103615.10695.2.k7sz@juno.com>

Gang:

Gotta weed out the QRP gear. Way too much stuff, not enuff time....you know, the usual BS.

Surplus to requirements:

Wilderness Sierra 160-10 mtr QRP transceiver. This rig was featured in the June 1996 QST article on QRP Kits. It was also used as the 40 meter station at last years Zuni Loop FD. It comes with all 9 band modules for operations from 160 meters thru 10 meters, including all WARC bands. Also

included is the KC-2 keyer/PWR Mtr/Digital Readout along with the matching silkscreened front panel.

Price: \$500 firm. Serious inquiries only, please.

This is a great rig. Exceptionally quiet receiver and RF output varies from about 3.5 watts on 160 to about 2 watts on 10 meters. Cosmetic and electrical condition is a 10. I'll even throw in a padded carrying case.

Shipping (US ONLY) is included for the \$500 price tag, or I will transport to Dayton next week.

73 rich K7SZ

(717) 825-5395 (home....anytime)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: Paul Stroud <aa4xx@amsat.org>

Subject: [19450] Good signal from NM!

Message-ID: <337610F1.579A@amsat.org>

Jim (KK6MC/5),

I was surprised to hear you clearly last Sunday night on the KnightLite's Net. Thanks for the FB job! I'll be NCS tonight, hoping for good conditions in the event that you might be able to check in with us again. Join us anytime, and please spread the word that we're also listening for you folks out West. For fellow QRP-L'ers that's Sunday night local on 3686.4 KHz beginning 0130 UTC. Everyone is welcome...

72 de Paul AA4XX Raleigh, NC

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: sjs@cfu-cybernet.net (Sutterer, Stephen J.)

Subject: [19444] Help: March 1970 QST?

Message-ID: <19970511042920743.AAA187@CFU.cfu-cybernet.net>

I need a copy of an article from March 1970 QST for a construction project... If anyone can help, please drop me a direct email. I will pay copying and shipping cost to the selected respondent.

Thanks!

Steve Sutterer AK0M
QRP ARCI #3955
sjs@cfu-cybernet.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: w7rfm@juno.com (John E Hirsch)
Subject: [19443] HW-8 on the air buuuuuuuuuuuut
Message-ID: <19970510.210251.3030.0.w7rfm@juno.com>

I have been calling for almost 2 hr. and I don't thing I am getting out.

I say this because I have not had one contact. I have tried to answer several calls that others were making but no luck.

I will try a little longer and then give it up. I will be back on to morrow , Mothers Day , probably in the evening again around 2200 utc and see what I can't get.....

de w7rfm

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: w7rfm@juno.com (John E Hirsch)
Subject: [19435] HW-8 on the air
Message-ID: <19970510.173550.2718.0.w7rfm@juno.com>

at 0001 utc 11 may 97 on or abutr 7042.3

CQRP W7RFM
John Hirsch
HeathKit HW-8
Dipole at 38FT
Federal Way Wa
speed 10-12 wpm

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: Neil Heckt <neil@aaade.com>
Subject: [19445] know any links to homebrew pages on the www?
Message-ID: <33755D27.7AB4@aaade.com>

I was suggested that I put a group of links to homebrew sites on the web on my web page.

If you know of any please send me the URL.

Thanks

--

Neil

Homebrew Heaven at <http://www.aade.com>

Home of L/C Meter IIB and Digital Frequency Display

Links to sites of interest to Engineers, Amateurs and hobbyists
interested in Circuit Design and construction.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: MSU1972@aol.com

Subject: [19440] more power help for 38s

Message-ID: <970510220703_841618016@emout09.mail.aol.com>

Thanks for the help...I'll use at least .5 amp for the 5 watt mod of the 38s...

Now, when I test some spare ac adapters they read different voltages than indicated..for example the 12 vdc reads 15 and the 13 reads 17...is this because they are not on a load? ... I'm using a small Radio Shack digital volt/ohm/continuity meter. The 9 volt adapter read 12 volts and when I tried it it didn't have enough power for the 38s...

Thanks again, David

(This is a great rig!...just tried the 5 watt mod and worked MO from MI...wish I could get rid of the click/chirp/thump/thunk...whatever you call it....

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>

Subject: [19437] SMD parts dealer at Dayton

Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.970510221349.13215A-100000@u1.abs.net>

I asked "baggybob" to tell me where he'll be at Dayton so we can find him easily. As you may remember, he's the guy who has the good deals on the SMD parts (and some other goodies as well), and I've forwarded his list of items for sale to many of you. I bought SMD goodies from him at Dayton for 2 years in a row, for that little, tiny QRP rig in a fuse box that I'm going to build. Unfortunately, WG3R and I still have not started building them, but we've not forgotten about it. In the meantime, someone--N8ET?--told me that a friend of his did build a transceiver into a fuse box and may have it at Dayton. Can't wait to see it!

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

wa8mcq@abs.net

----- Forwarded message -----

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: Peter Barville <peter@barville.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [19455] WARC bands QRP frequencies
Message-ID: <0J611EA9CidzEw7c@barville.demon.co.uk>

Hi Folks

On the subject of suggested QRP frequencies for the WARC bands, I am Communications Manager for G-QRP Club and am trying to reach some sort of agreement between G-QRP, OK-QRP and QRP-ARCI over suitable choices.

I agree that any quoted frequencies should be 'centres of activity', rather than 'calling frequencies', but it is certainly useful to have agreed starting points on each band, in order that we maximise the chance of finding 2-way QRP contacts.

Whilst the frequencies on 'non-WARC' bands seem to be well known, and generally successful, the situation on the WARC bands has perhaps been a little confused.

The well quoted 30m frequency of 10106 has long been unusable (around EU certainly) because of commercial data transmissions there. 10116 has become the 'default' frequency for some time now, and there seems little point trying to change it. There may be some argument for going higher still, and the British Novice stations (with their 3 watts) would lend their support to this idea as they have to operate within the section 10130-10140. However, there is (sad, but true) quite a lot of ssb activity in that part of the band, and I suspect amateur data transmissions may also start to appear in numbers here. Therefore, all things considered, 10116 would appear the best choice for 30m, with the added thought that it is always worth looking above 10130 for the UK Novices.

In the latest Sprat (Nr 90) I suggested 18096 as a suitable choice for 17m, but from what I read on QRP-L about the qrm levels in the States, maybe 18086 would be better. I was trying to stay high enough in the band to avoid qrm from QRO operators, who will undoubtedly spread up the band as conditions improve, and activity increases, but maybe it's not such a good choice. Personally, I rather like keeping the '6' in the frequency wherever possible (ie 18086 rather than 18085) - if only because it's become sort of traditional, and makes them easier to remember!

So, to summarise .. how about:

30m	17m	12m
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cw	10116	18086	24906
ssb		18130	24950

Any comments will be welcome, particularly from QRP-ARCI.

--

72, Peter G3XJS (<http://www.barville.demon.co.uk/qrpinfo.htm>)

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: timcook@erinet.com

Subject: [19456] WTB: LDG Autotuner

Message-ID: <33763D31.2723@erinet.com>

Hi,

Since so many were bought/sold as a result of this list, thought I would start looking here first before ordering a new one.

Looking for the 100w version of the LDG autotuner. If you had one and are ready to move it on, please email direct with details.

thanks

Tim

NZ8J

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: cjl@mail09.mitre.org (Charles J. Ludinsky)

Subject: [19449] RE: 38S Chirp

Message-ID: <970511134823.3323@mail09.mitre.org.0>

Rick,

Regarding your sudden chirp, a word of caution on the power supply if using the power amplifier mod. I was using an external pack of eight D-cell alkalines. Worked well at first. However, it didn't take long before the voltage started dropping from 12.6 down to about 10 volts on high power. The eight volt regulator does not entirely eliminate the voltage swing on keying from receive to transmit, and this showed up as a noticeable chirp and short frequency drift. To avoid these, the power supply itself must be quite solid.

Regards,

K1CL, Chuck

> Last night KL7JEF gave me a 339C report which prompted me quickly check my
> signal on the FT757. Sure enough, the 38S has suddenly developed a

> noticeable chirp, after having been chirp-free for the first 8 weeks of its
> life. Anybody got any ideas about the first place to look for what might
> have changed??? I can't go through life sounding like a CO!!

> Richard W. (Rick) Hadley
> W0FG - Life Member ARRL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [19439] Re FDIM
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.970510222847.13535A-100000@u1.abs.net>

The posting by W4DU a while back about FDIM being a bargain at the price was prompted by one of our phone talks. While I'm an old cheapskate at heart and don't like shelling out the money, it's a heck of a lot less than it could be. And it does include giveaways as well as lunch. Everyone involved is doing this out of the goodness of their hearts, not getting a penny for all their trouble and grief, has plenty of work going on with it, and we all owe them a lot. And I would not be in the least bit surprised if there is a huge turnover in the FDIM staff every year--something like this could burn out people pretty quickly :-)

I've been getting CC copies of a number of the internal FDIM postings since the QRP ARCI is lending its support, or at least letting its name be used, and it's been interesting reading. Putting on something like this is NOT a trivial operation, does NOT happen painlessly with just a couple of hours of work, and I'm glad someone else is doing it instead of me! And the financial end of it has been interesting, seeing them toss out the figures on the various things they have to pay for, agonizing over how to keep the cost under their budget, etc. A good example was the "endless coffee pot" affair. The caterer wanted something like \$6.50 per person for that! (Of course it included about 27 different types of drinks in every flavor known to mankind, donuts and bagels to choke a horse, etc, but \$6.50 per person is quite a hefty chunk of change when you're working with a fixed \$30 per person budget.)

And don't forget that the speakers are doing this out of the goodness of their hearts, too--none of them are getting paid for it. (Note to the speakers: I'll be sitting in the back row where I can snooze off without too many people seeing it, and don't take it personally when I do--I do that in EVERY meeting that I attend!)

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

wa8mcq@abs.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: BAGGYBOB <Baggybob@cris.com>
Subject: Re: Going to Dayton?

Yes, I just posted to several newsgroups our plans for Dayton. I would put messages on some of the mailing lists but don't know where this type of advertising is wanted. I guess the best solution is a web page like "Dans Small Parts" but then I would be more like a business than a little part-time effort. We will be in the same place at #4055 and #4056. Please note that I have changed e-mail address. New address will be baggybob at elknet.net

bob

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: "J.Vinay Babu" <ramesh@giasbga.vsnl.net.in>
Subject: [19446] Re: know any links to homebrew pages on the www?
Message-ID: <Pine.SV4.3.93.970511175627.2294B-100000@giasbgb>

hello iam rajesh from india

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: Bob Kellogg <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>
Subject: [19434] Re: Lightning
Message-ID: <199705102309.TAA25709@mh004.infi.net>

Hi Ron,
I was really glad to hear your story.
At 09:11 PM 5/9/97 -0700, you wrote:

>A friend in Idaho always makes large coils, about 4' in dia, in
>his feed lines just before they enter the shack.
>
>He has had the hardline from his small EME array blown out several
>times!
>
>It always looks like the lightning just can't make the bend and
>blows right out the jacket! He has never had a rig damaged and
>on more than one occasion the rig was still connected to the
>line when it happened.

>
>I have seen the damage myself.
>
>Just one more little step that can't hurt but just might help!

I ran into a guy who was familiar with some lightning studies that had been made by one of the Govt. services. I was setting up new computers and was concerned about lightning damage from the power lines. He said to tie about three overhand knots in the computers power cord. He claimed that a big hit would burn through the knots like a fuse.

I laughed, recalling the time my wife tried to return a new mixer that wouldn't work. The clerk said, "Oh, no wonder it won't work, you haven't uncoiled the cord yet -- the electricity can't get through all of those loops".

But, to shorten this tale, the guy convinced me that he was serious.

I don't normally advertise that my computer and other sensitive equipment have knots in the power cords. -- But your feedline story adds some credibility, so I'll admit it to this group.

CUL,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC, Greensboro, NC
Probably, but not necessarily. - Benny Hill
WIMPS: Qs=001 30m=1 17m=0 12m=0 States=01/00/00

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: WD6BOR@aol.com
Subject: [19454] Re: Need Scope Info
Message-ID: <970511164112_-231238434@emout06.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 97-05-10 15:46:22 EDT, ajones@adsnet.com (Allen Jones) writes:

<< Can anyone give me some general info on a Tektronix 545B scope with a CA plug-in. I bought one this morning at a garage sale! No probes, manual or power cord. Any idea of what they are worth on the surplus market? I was told it came out of the instrument lab at the local power company when they updated their equipment.

>>

You can get Tektronix manuals from a number of different sources. Try:

Deane Kidd, W7TYR
27270 S.W. Ladd Hill Road

Sherwood, OR 97140
503-625-7363

Ed Matsuda
Test Equipment Manuals
P.O. Box 390613
San Diego, CA 92149
619-479-0225/FAX 619-479-1670
ematsuda@themall.net

Manual Merchant
2475 Loring St.
San Diego, CA 92109-2348
619-490-9076

Manuals Plus
P.O. Box 549
Tooele, UT 84074

I've bought manuals from several of these sources and have been satisfied with the service..

Darrel, WD6BOR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: george fremin iii <geoiii@bga.com>
Subject: [19447] Re: QRP Calling Freqs
Message-ID: <199705111311.IAA16425@zoom.bga.com>

I agree with what K5F0 said about having a VFO and using it - this makes life easier for all of us. I would like to make a few notes about some of the following frequencies so that everyone will better understand what they might run into on some of them.

> Band	CW	SSB
> ----	-----	-----
> 160	1.810	1.910

1.910 is right in the middle of the only frequencies that Japanese hams have on 160m. They can operate CW only on 1.907.5 to 1.912.5 - as you can see not much room. So anytime that someone wants to work a JA station they have to listen for them here. Almost 100% of the time this is done by transmitting down in the 1.830 range

and listening in the JA "window" (peephole might be a better term).

> 10 28.060 28.885

28.885 is the frequency that the 6m ops use to talk about DX openings on 6m - as the sunspots fire back up this frequency will be quite active with 6m ops from all over the world.

> 6 50.060 50.885
> 50.285 (SSB EU)

I have to echo the comments made by the other poster eariler in the week.

50.060 is smack in the middle of a bucnh of cw beacons. If the band is open - few folks will be here looking for qsos and you will most likely get covered up by a beacon.

As an example - the 1997 CQ Amateur Radio Almanac lists eight beacons from 50.059 to 50.061 - four of these are on 50.060.

Six meters is a great band and when it is open QRP power works really really well. But if you call looking for stations at 50.885 you may think that 6m is a waste of time.

I would suggest 50.125 to 50.200 as the most active range and 50.125 or 50.150 or 50.200 as the most often used "calling" frequencies on the band.

> 2 144.060 144.285
> 144.585 (FM)

Your best bet on this band is to listen around 144.200 - as that is where all the activty is - cw or ssb. Again the beacons are all around the 144.285 frequency.

--

George Fremin III
Austin, Texas C.K.U.
K5TR
512/416-7010
geoiiii@bga.com

"I'm on a mexican radio"
- Wall of Voodoo

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: "chuck munce" <k0gjx@msn.com>
Subject: [19451] RE: QRP Calling Freqs
Message-ID: <UPMAIL05.199705111835280252@msn.com>

GEORGE AND ALL

I DONT KNOW WHO SET UP THESE CALLING FREQUENCIES IN THE FIRST PLACE?? BUT IT STANDS TO REASON THEY DID NOT KNOW ANY THING ABOUT 6M OR 2M OPERATION. AND NOW WITH TECHS ON 10M

IN THE 28.300 TO 28.500 THIS IS WHERE WE SHOULD BE ON 10M. THE 28.885 FREQ HAS BEEN USED SINCE THE EARLY 1970,S,I KNOW I USE IT FOR 6M LAISON DURING THE LAST 2 PEAKS.QRP WORKS ON 6M I HAVE WORKED MANY STATES AND DXCC COUNTRIES RUNNING AND IC 502 AND STANDING IN MY BACK YARD WITH ITS WHIP EXTENDED.LETS GET A NEW AND CORRECT CALLING FREQ LIST , I WILL BE GLAD TO HELP 73 CHUCK K0GJX

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU on behalf of george fremin iii
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 1997 8:11 AM
Subject: Re: QRP Calling Freqs

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--

George Fremin III
Austin, Texas C.K.U. "I'm on a mexican radio"
K5TR - Wall of Voodoo
512/416-7010
geoiiii@bga.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997
From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [19438] Re tightness of windings on toroids
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.970510221748.13327A-100000@u1.abs.net>

I might have to eat at least a little bit of crow on my previous posting detailing my experiments on this one. I had a good discussion with one of the engineers at work about it, with him talking off the top of his head since he hasn't worked directly with magnetics in years (but he's one of those people where talking off the top of his head is better than most people talking right after they've done detailed study). I get the impression that the subject is considerably more complicated than I thought it was (hardly surprising). I need to go back and raid some of the engineers book shelves and find some good reference books on magnetics and do some study, and then talk to a few more of the engineers. But I'm now tending to agree with several of the qrp-l folks who commented that winding the wire tighter against the core DOES give an increase. Of course there's also the matter of the winding diameter being a bit smaller, so there are probably two forces working in opposite directions. Further study needed, and further comments from engineer-types invited!

In the meantime, for those of you who have a life, don't lose too much sleep over this. As always, the best rule to follow with toroids will probably always be to wind them according to the article you're working from, then tweak them until things work properly (squeeze or expand turns, or even add or subtract one or more), and not worry about the fact that you had to tweak it. Toroids are not, after all, precision components by any stretch of the imagination :-)

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

wa8mcq@abs.net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun May 11 18:04:04 1997

From: Mike Czuhajewski <wa8mcq@u1.abs.net>

Subject: [19452] Re wire size vs. Q

Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.970511154344.13204A-100000@u1.abs.net>

Several days ago someone asked me about the W7EL Q vs. wire size item in QST that I referred to. Here's the info; it was in Technical Correspondence, QST for April 1983, page 39, titled "Choosing wire size for toroidal inductors".

He wound 22 turns of different sizes of wire on a batch of T50-6 cores, and checked them with a homebrew test fixture for both inductance and Q at 14 MHz. The 22 turns of #21 exactly filled the core in a single layer, and for the smaller sizes the turns were equally spaced. He did these tests on different cores, not all on the same one as I usually do in my tests, so there could be some small differences in inductance because of core to core variations in permeability.

Those differences shouldn't be more than plus or minus five percent (per Micrometals).

His data:

Wire size (AWG)	Apparent L (uH)	Q
21	2.10	252
22	2.17	237
24	2.17	250
26	2.07	248
28	2.15	220
30	2.13	196
32	2.28	182

He goes on to say that the coils with 21 thru 26 wire are essentially the same, considering the accuracy of his test device and core to core variations. He noted that there is a distinct drop in Q at #28 and smaller wire but that it won't be noticeable unless the application is a critical one such as a VFO tank or high Q filter. He gave some examples of applications where the loaded Q is generally low enough that the difference in unloaded Q (which are the values given above) is unimportant. These include transmitter interstage and output matching and filtering networks and single-tuned circuits.

Roy gave a rule of thumb for getting the highest Q from a coil--use the largest wire that will fit the core in a single layer but isn't so large that it won't conform well to the core. He also observed that using wire a few sizes smaller than what is called for will still deliver good performance.

As I mentioned in a previous posting, I tried his experiment but with a larger core and lower frequency, a T106-2 measured at 3.6 MHz, but had to terminate it when I dropped the core after winding it with the 3rd or 4th different size of wire, and it shattered into 4 pieces! It immediately transformed itself into a different experiment, one observing the changes in a coil wound on an intact core vs. one that had been glued back together :-). And that result was that the inductance dropped some, which W6EMD pointed out was due to the air gap added to the core (which was actually a series of 4 gaps filled with epoxy), and the Q remained essentially the same.

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

wa8mcq@abs.net